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Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66603
DRAFTED BY: P:ARAPHEL
APPROVED BY: P:ARAPHEL
S/S- MR. LUERS
---------- 078092
O 011924Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL HAMILTON IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 240707

PASS TO UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

FOLL REPEAT TEL AVIV 6296 ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN BEIRUT
CAIRO DAMASCUS JERUSALEM JIDDA TEHRAN 01 NOV 74
QUOTE

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 6296

TEHRAN FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IS, XF
SUBJ: ISRAELI ASSESSMENT OF RABAT SUMMIT

1. SUMMARY. ISRAELIS REMAIN CONCERNED RE SIGNIFICANCE OF RABAT SUMMIT CONFERENCE FOR PROSPECTS OF MAINTAINING MOMENTUM TOWARD ACHIEVING NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENTS, PARTICULARLY WITH EGYPT AND JORDAN. ISRAELI PRESS ALSO CALLS ATTENTION TO POTENTIAL DANGERS OF PUBLIC REJOICING AND SUPPORT FOR PLO AMONG POPULATION OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. END SUMMARY.

2. IN ANTICIPATION OF MAJOR POLITICAL ADDRESS ON POST-RABAT MIDEAST SCENE TO BE DELIVERED IN KNESSET NEXT WEEK, PRIME MINISTER HABIN MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ON RABAT CONFERENCE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SPEECH TO MANAGEMENT CENTER CONFERENCE IN TEL AVIV,

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OCTOBER 31.

3. BEGIN OFFICIAL GOI TEXT. AS FOR THE RABAT CONFERENCE:
WE HAVE ATENDENCY TO FALL INTO MOODS, AS IF THAT CONFERENCE
AD RESULTED IN MAJOR SURPRISES. THE ALGERIA CONFERENCE,
FOLLOWED BY THE JOINT STATEMENT OF YPT, SYRIA AND ARAFAT,
AD PREPARED THE GROUND SUFFICIENTLY TO ELIMINATE THE
ELEMENT OF SURPRISE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN RABAT.
TWOQUESTIONS ARISE IN THE WAKE OF THE RABAT SUMMIT:
WILL EGYPT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE, AFTER RABAT, MOVING TOWARDS
PEACE--NOT ALONE, BUT SEPARATELY, AS SHE DID ON OCCASION
OF THE SEPARATION AGREEMENT? THIS IS THE CENTRAL
QUESTION: WORDS ARE ONE THING, ACTION--ANOTHER. WE
MUST NOT DISCOUNT WHAT IS BEING SAID, BUT THE REAL PROOF
MOMES LATER, WITH HARD FACTS.

4. THE SECOND QUESTION: IS JORDAN THE PARTNER FOR
NEGOTIATIONS ON ALL MATTERS OF POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN
EAST--OR IS THERE NO JORDAN. HERE, TOO, WE MUST NOT JUMP
TO FINAL CONCLUSIONS. IN A WAY, THE QUESTION WAS ANSWERED
IN RABAT, ALLEGING THAT THE TERRORISTS SHOULD BE THOSE PARTNERS.
END TEXT.

5. ISRAEL'S ANSWER: THERE ARE NO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. WE HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO THEM.
SHOULD THE ARAB WORLD DECIDE THAT JORDAN SHOULD NOT BE A
PARTNER (FOR TALKS), THEN THERE IS NO-ONE TO TALK WITH ABOUT
PEACE ON OUR EASTERN BORDER. THIS APPLIES NOT ONLY TO THE
TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS APPEARING UNDER THEIR OWN NAME,
BUT ALSO TO TERRORISTS WEARING HUSSEIOIAN MASKS. END TEXT

6. FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON, IN SPEAKING AT DINNER FOR
FRENCH FM SAUVAGNARGUES OCTOBER 31, MADE FOLLOWING
REMARKS UNDERLINING GOI REFUSAL TO CONSIDER
NEGOTIATING WITH PLO.

7. BEGIN OFFICIAL GOI TEXT. THE MIDDLE EAST NOW
STANDS AT A FATEFUL CROSSROADS. THE FORCES PRESSING FOR WAR
AND THE ELEMENTS PREPARED FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT ARE
COMPETING FOR HEGEMONY IN THE ARAB STATES' POLICIES,
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AND IT IS NOT CLEAR WHO WILL GAIN THE UPPER HAND...
8. AT THE PRESENT JUNCTURE IN THE MIDDLEEAST, IT IS ALL THE
MORE IMPORTANT TO ENCOURAGE AND STRENGTHEN THE MODERATE
ELE-
MENTS, WHO ARE PREPARED TO EMBARK UPON THE PATH OF
NEGOTIATION AND POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, AND TO REFRAIN FROM
ANY TALK OR ACT LIKELY TO BOLSTER THE POSITION OF THE

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ESTREMISTELEMENTS STRAINING FOR ANOTHER WAR--AMONG
THE MOST EXTREME OF WHICH, IN BOTH DOCTRINE AND DEED,
IS THE ORGANIZATIN STYLING ITSE F THE "PALESTINE LIBERATION
ORGANIZATION." SUFFICE IT TO READ ITS "CHARTER" AND TO
RECALL THE CHAIN OF ACTS OF SLAUGHTER AND TERRORISM
PERPETRATED BY THE TERRORIST GROUPS INCORPORATED IN THE
NLO,TO REALIZE THAT TERRORISM IS THE VERY ESSENCE OF
THE PLO. END TEXT.

9. ISRAELI PRESS REMAINS INTENT ON DISCERNING USG REACTION
TO RABAT CONFERENCE.PRESIDENT'S REFERENCE
TO "JORDAN OR PLO" AT OCTOBER 29 PRESS CONFERENCE HAS
ATTRACTED SOME ATTENTION BUT HAS BEEN HANDLED IN VERY LOW-KEY
FASHION. NO ISRAELI OFFICIALS HAS PUBLICLY
COMMENTED ON EITHER PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT OR SUBSEQUENT
WASHINGTON COMMENTARY ON IT. HAARETZ (MARGALIT FROM
WASHINGTON) TYPIFIES PRESS ATTITUDE BY NOTING "MOST
OBSERVERS ARE AGREED THAT THIS WAS A SLIP OF THE TONGUE, BUT THAT
ONE COULD HARDLY EXPECT THE PRESIDENT TO ADMIT THAT IN SO
MANY WORDS". MOST PREVALENT ISRAELI PRESS DESCRIPTION
THUS FAR OF USG REACTION IS "CONFUSED".

10. DOMINANT ISRAELI PRESS VIEW IS THAT RABAT
CONFERENCE BODES ILL FOR MIDEAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, PLACING
NEW AND SERIOUS OBSTACLES IN PATH OF SECRETARY'S EFFORTS TO
FIND BASIS FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN REGION, AND THAT
DANGER OF WAR HAS INCREASED. PRESS IS ALSO SERIOUSLY
CONCERNED WITH EXAMPLES OF ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC REACTIONS
NN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES RE RABAT (FOR EXAMPLE, SOME
ENTHUSIASTIC EAST JERUSALEMITES WERE CARRIED
ON ISRAELI TV) AND IMPLICATIONS FOR ISRAELI SECURITY.
PRESS ALSO ADMONISHES GOI OT TO WAVER IN ITS OPPOSITION
TO DEALING WITH PLO.
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